Nation

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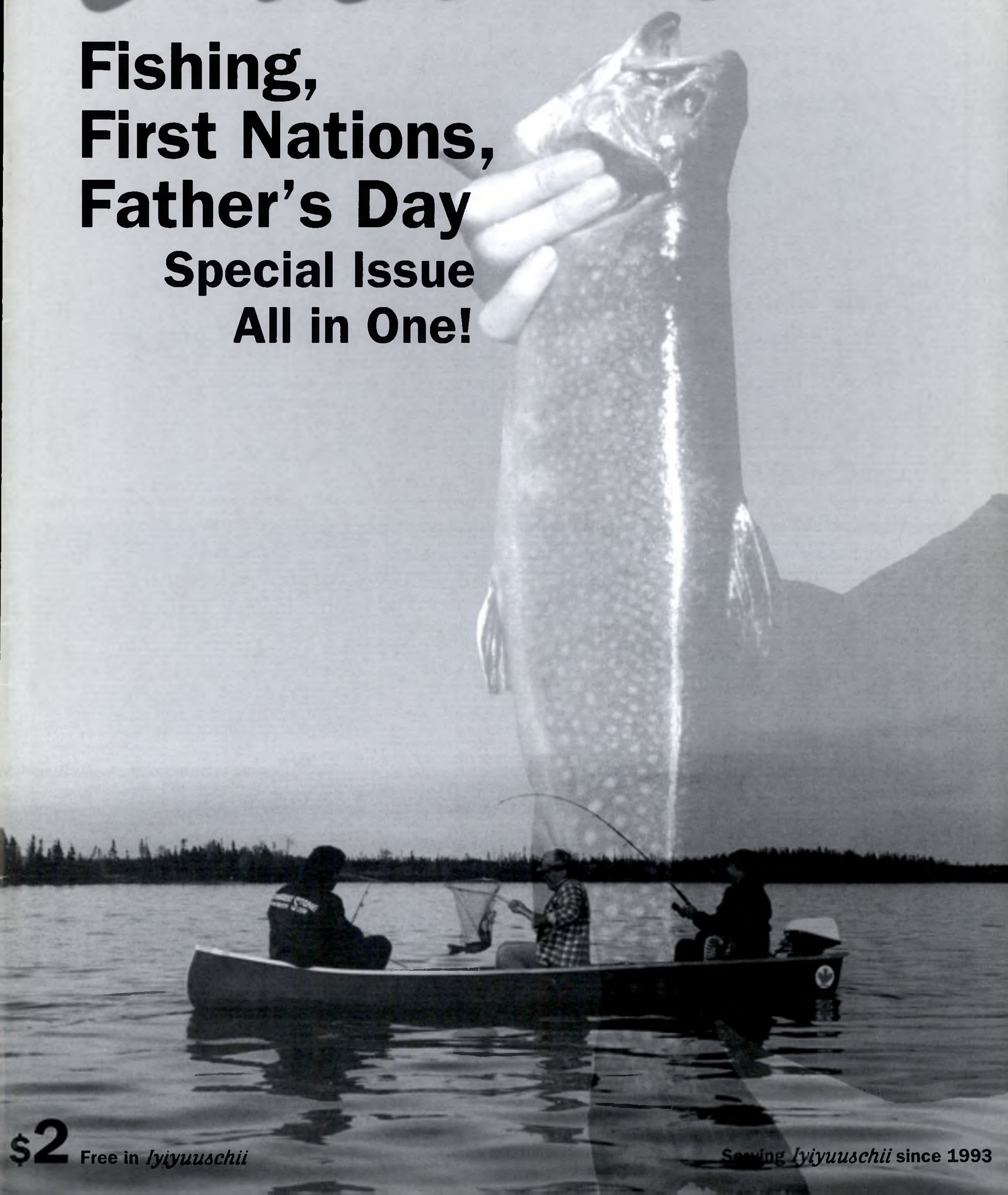

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8:00 AM - Walking-Out Ceremony

11:00 AM - Arrival of Guests

12:00 PM - Lunch

1:30 PM - Official Opening C.C.C.

2:00 PM - Ceremony

3:30 PM - Pre-K & K Building Opening

5:30 PM - Supper

8:00 PM - Celebration

11:00 PM - Fireworks

The Cree Nation of Eastmain
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the opening of its

Community Centre Complex

Opening Day Ceremonies
will be held on

June 21 st.

CALL FOR PAPERS
NATIONAL SPECIAL EDITION
NATIVE SOCIAL WORK JOURNAL
NISHNAABE KINOOMAADWIN NAADMAADWIN
(Native Teaching and Helping)

The Board of the Native Social Work Journal, a scholarly and community-based publication, is pleased to announce a ***Call for Papers for a Special National Edition - HIV/AIDS: Issues Within Aboriginal Populations.*** The focus of this special edition is to solicit articles describing best practices in the areas of Care, Treatment and Support.

Community-based practitioners, health care providers, health prevention and promotion planners, programme developers, correctional service advocates, medical providers, and traditional Aboriginal care providers are encouraged to submit articles on care treatment and support; community development; prevention; and legal, ethical and human rights issues. Persons living with HIV/AIDS are especially encouraged to submit articles.

Authors can submit articles in two categories: community-based and A.P.A. style. Articles submitted under the community-based category are not required to follow the A.P.A. style format. Instead, please describe in the manuscript the history of the project, issues being addressed or kinds of services being provided, and recommendations or conclusions for effective practices with Aboriginal populations impacted by HIV/AIDS.

Authors submitting under A.P.A. (American Psychological Association) style format please follow manual guidelines.

Articles should normally be no longer than 5000 words. Papers accepted for publication will have copyright assigned to the Native Social Work Journal; articles previously published or under current consideration for publication elsewhere shall not be considered for publication. Please provide an abstract, double space all material and submit three copies for consideration.

Contributors can submit brief reports with a maximum length of 10 pages (approximately 300 words per page), including references, tables, and figures.

The Native Social Work Journal utilizes a peer review process in the selection of articles and is a registered member of the Canadian Association of Learned Journals.

Technical support may be available to authors who request assistance in the development of articles.

Deadline date for submission of articles is October 1st, 1999. Anticipated publication date for this Special Edition is April 2000.

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What does everybody want?

The backrooms are filled to capacity and the deal-makers, shakers and would-be king-makers have sat down to feast on the remains of the Cree land and culture whilst battling among themselves for the choicest pieces.

It's the Valhalla of politicians and bureaucrats on Mother Earth. They don't even have to die to go there.

Looking inside, you notice Hydro-Quebec diplomats out front talking the talk with silky promises designed to entice. The Hydro outriders slipping in between people. Divide and conquer is the order of the day. A promise to a Cree chief here of better days to come. A trusting chief who has conveniently forgotten the better days of the past when there was supposed to be 150 jobs by 1996.

It'll be different this time since Crees would be partners and the days of the Cree community deficit will be a thing of the past!

In the corner, a Hydro guarantee of a $1-billion pay-off helps to finance a revolution for the Péqists. "Our commitment to the government of Quebec." Ah, a winning condition to have a millenium referendum has been reached. Twice, in fact, if the Cree-Hydro partnership goes through. After all will the Crees be able to say they aren't part of Quebec if they are partners with Hydro-Quebec and their shareholder is the government of Quebec?

Chiefs looking at the piles of gold and the 30 pieces of silver quickly attempt to destroy any opposition to their accessing the money.

Oops, excuse me for my dip into a different world. It's just whenever I see politicians (Cree and non-Cree alike) and Hydro-Quebec get together, I get nervous. After spending so much time in the trenches in the United States fighting Quebec and Hydro's attempts to drown Cree land ,I know the opposition pretty well. It's a natural response by now to look at the interconnecting issues.

A recent development of interest is the new consortium of chiefs who suddenly decided they are taking over the file dealing Hydro-Quebec's Rupert River Diversion. This was done in a May 5 letter to Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come (see News, page 5) They are suggesting Cree consent belongs in their hands only. I feel this is a dangerous precedent. It was a court battle and a half just to determine Cree consent meant the Grand Council and the waters will now be muddied again.

Another thing they want is independent advisors and legal representation. A duplication of efforts and money when money is scarce.

My prediction is that, unless things are talked about now, we'll see a signed deal by December. Once the studies and the deals are made in principle it'll be pretty much a done deal even if they do come back for your support at the community level. A string of goodies will be attached and anyone who dares say anything will be told they are standing in the way of what's best for the community. It's happened before and will undoubtedly happen again.

I feel that before anything starts happening in the backrooms, two things are needed: a special assembly to address this problem and some questions answered. I would like to poll any and all Crees on these questions and we'll print the results in upcoming issues. It just might save a lot of money and time. Let's see what everyone wants for a change. I encourage everyone to take the time and respond.

by William Nicholls

Cree Nation Survey

1. Should Crees be partners with Hydro-Quebec?

Yes____
No ____
Need more information____

2. Do you want Hydro-Quebec's Rupert River Diversion?

Yes____
No ____
Need more information____

3. Do you want the Hydro-Quebec's Great Whale River Diversion?

Yes____
No ____
Need more information____

4. Should we have a Special General Assembly to address this issue?

Yes____
No ____
Need more information____

Fax answers to: (514) 278-9914; email to: will@beesum-communications.com; or mail to: 5505 St. Laurent Blvd., Suite 3018, Montreal, Qc., H2T 1S6.

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COVER PHOTO
Catch of the day.
Photo by Neil Diamond
Design by Sylvia Tennisco

JUNE 18, 1999

rez notes

by Ndiamon

My father celebrated his birthday a few days ago. My sister baked him a cake, decorated it and we lit the tiny candles that covered the entire cake. His lungs are still powerful, considering he's been a smoker for most of his adult life, and he blew out all 78 candles in one huff. Most non-smoking 70-year-olds would need the help of the north wind to blow out that many birthday candles.

My father was conceived, born and grew up in the bush (Waskaganish was still technically bush at the time) learning to hunt, fish and trap. He went to school one summer and after about three months he tuned in, turned on, dropped out and headed for the bush again. A hippie before his time but without the psychedelics and Hendrix.

I credit my dad for many of the good things in my life. The ability to laugh at myself... and others and not take life too seriously. Even my love of reading. My dad can only read maybe a word or two of English ("open here"), yet when I was young and still hadn't been to school, he and I would lie in bed and he would read me Archie comics. Needless to say Archie and the gang were not what we all know them as. I remember laughing out loud at the antics of Mr. Weatherbee courting Miss Grundy and the whole Archie gang constantly making fun of Jughead's nose. Archie comics seemed boring to me after I learned to read.

Yes, my father has a great sense of humour and can laugh at himself. Once, he was out with my two brothers hunting. He prepared a meal of moose stew and put it away for breakfast. The following morning he warmed it up and ladled a serving to my brother only to find one of his moccasin duffels had fallen into the pot during the night. They had nothing else ready so they ate the breakfast stew anyway. He still gets a laugh out of the story when my brother or I mention it.

My father is proud of his now-fading hunting prowess and jokes that when he would set snares for rabbits, the rabbits would be sitting beside him ready to get snared so he would have to shoo them away gently saying, "Not right now!"

He is, like most of his generation, a master storyteller and still carries on our oral tradition. His knowledge and remembrance, with my mom's prompting, of legends and stories is encyclopedic. He still picks up the drum and performs an old chant he might have heard his grandfather play after a kill. He will also beat on the drum and sing with a millions time more feeling than Pavarotti, one of his own hunting compositions.

My dad remembers his grandfather still hunting with a bow and arrow, old men beating the drum and shaking tents to ask the spirits for news. He remembers his grandfather building a sweat lodge to cure himself of ailments in the middle of winter. He recalls walking non-stop for miles to get medical help for my older brother with an infected wound.

These days he can be found, when he feels like it, still hunting, fishing and trapping not far from the community. Or sitting at his usual table we refer to as his office, at Sally's Restaurant reminiscing, and sometimes napping, with his good friend and contemporary Ronnie Cowboy about the old days.

Happy National Aboriginal Day, happy birthday, happy Fathers Day and good fishing Babah.

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Nation

CHIEFS SEEK TO SHUT OUT GRAND CHIEF

Five Cree chiefs have sent a letter to Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come saying they - and not the Grand Council of the Crees - are the ones who will negotiate with Hydro-Quebec on the proposed Rupert River Hydro Project.

The May 5 letter - signed by chiefs Kenneth Gilpin, Kenny Loon, Billy Diamond, Violet Pachanos and Walter Hughboy - sent shock waves through Cree political circles.

Nemaska Chief George Wapachee's name was also on the letter, but it didn't carry his signature. Wapachee said his community has to remain neutral on this issue between the other chiefs and the Grand Council/CRA.

Hydro's proposed EM-1 reservoir would be just 40 kilometres north of Nemaska.

"Our position is we are not happy with the project. We still have unresolved business with Hydro-Quebec over the last time they wanted to do the NBR project," said Wapachee.

Wapachee said the Hudson Bay Co. used the planned NBR hydro-electric project as an excuse to move out of Nemaska, forcing residents to move to Mistissini and Waskaganish. NBR was later put on hold. Wapachee has said the Rupert Diversion would harm the community of Nemaska.

The five chiefs' letter says they will appoint a "negotiation team" to talk to H-Q. Its mandate would include information-gathering, desicion-making and, if Crees give consent to the project, negotiating the deal.

It's not clear from the letter who is to give "Cree consent," the chiefs or community members.

The six Cree Nations of Waskaganish, Eastmain, Chisasibi, Wemindji, Mistissini and Nemaska would have the complete authority to extend or end the mandate of the negotiation team.

The letter says these six Cree Nations are the ones that would be affected, and that the chiefs are acting in the best interests of their members by excluding the rest of the Cree Nation and the Grand Council.

Kenny Blacksmith, former deputy grand chief, has written a letter responding to the chiefs (see p. 6). He wrote that the five chiefs don't have a mandate to shut out the Grand Council and that Crees have gotten little information about project impacts.

The five chiefs' letter says each of the chiefs got "a specific mandate from our members" at the time of Hydro-Quebec chairman André Caillé's vist to the Cree communities last year. They say the mandate was to "oversee the file, find and obtain the complete information" and report back to the communities to see if Cree consent is there to become partners with Hydro-Quebec.

The letter goes on to say the Grand Council will not be excluded altogether. The five chiefs say the Grand Council is to provide funding for "independent advisors as well as the legal representation for the preparation of future negotiations." The chiefs promise to discuss with the Grand Chief the extent of the involvement of the Grand Council.

The letter ends with the chiefs telling Coon Come they sincerely appreciate his commitment to the Cree Nation and "your willingness to recognize our own autonomy."

by William Nicholls

Free Leonard Peltier fight heats up

The campaign to free Leonard Peltier is heating up, but he needs support from the public. Amnesty International calls Peltier a political prisoner. He has spent 23 years in prison for the murders of two FBI agents killed on the Pine Ridge Reservation in 1975.

Human-rights groups say the FBI knowingly used perjured testimony to obtain Peltier's extradition from Canada to the United States. Peltier's lawyers were denied the right to call defense witnesses and prosecutors withheld vital evidence.

On April 30, France's former First Lady, Danielle Mitterrand, visited Peltier. She acknowledged what activists feared: Peltier's health is getting worse. He has cancer of the jaw and his mouth is frozen open at 13 millimetres. Peltier has refused any more operations by prison surgeons, claiming they botched two operations in 1996.

The Mayo Clinic, one of the best in the U.S., has agreed to operate on Peltier, but prison officials refuse Peltier permission to go, saying he may try to escape.

Meanwhile, Peltier has just released an autobiography called "Prison Writings: My Life is My Sundance." You can order it from the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee (LPDC) at (785) 842-5774 or email: lpdc@idir.net. Proceeds will go to Peltier's defense.

Peltier's supporters are fighting to get President Clinton to grant him clemency, which Clinton may do before leaving office.

You can send letters of support to the LPDC at P.O. Box 583, Lawrence, KS, 66044, USA. They'll pass letters on to the right people.

Canadian Justice Minister Anne McLellan recently announced she believes there was "no evidence of any fraud in the extradition process." Peltier's supporters say they want her to release an internal review of the case, which the Americans don't want McLellan to release. People are encouraged to call McLellan about this issue at (613) 992-4621.

The two FBI agents were killed when they went in to investigate a stolen pair of cowboy boots and were killed in a shootout. Battles escalated at Pine Ridge after uranium was discovered in the Black Hills. **W.N.**

Looters plague Nemaska

Letter to *The Nation*:

June is a time for all Cree families to go camping, fishing and boat riding for our kids. Nemaska Lake is a place we love to go and this has been a tradition since we came back to Nemaska Territory. We as a village were once separated by the Hydro project, but we are back together and we love our new location here in Nemaska - Champion Lake. And we still have our old Nemaska village. Every summer we go to the old Poste, as we call it, for Nad-Nemaska-wanoo Days. But now it will be different for boat and motor owners. We have to bring our boats and motors to our home community, as we cannot leave them at Old Nemaska Lake because of looters (people who steal from one another).

Last year, we lost five motors and that's a lot for someone who waits a whole year to pay off to own a motor. We have created this ourselves for not looking after the landing. Sometimes people steal booze from the campers who are non-Natives, and they go as far as stealing their fishing rods, lures, etc., which is not polite at all, and in return we lost five motors. I am asking anyone who knows where our motors are to please call at the Public Safety Dept., (819) 673-2442, and ask for Matthew Wapachee.

We lost the following motors: 2 Yamaha 40 HP, 1 Yamaha 40 Work Horse, 1 Johnson 25 HP, 1 Yamaha 20 HP. Megwetch,

Eric Cheezo, Nemaska

P.S. I want to know who can help, not to let it happen again. Also I still have a brand new motor (20 HP).

Slanted "news"

Letter to *The Nation*:

There was a time that I believed in the accuracy of *Nation* reporting.

This is no longer the case. The two articles written about me by Alex Roslin (May 21 and June 4) are so slanted, one-sided and so full of inaccuracies, it boggles the mind that this "journalism" can in any way be treated as either fair or even... professional.

I think this is the only comment such "news" deserves on my part, at the present time...

William R. Presnail, Chapais

No mandate to negotiate Rupert hydro project

Letter to *The Nation*:

To *The Nation*: Thank you for keeping us, the general public, well-informed with regards to the present issues which affect the Cree Nation. Forestry and Hydro-Quebec's so-called new potential projects or the Rupert River Diversion are key issues which will impact in the immediate and the future of our Cree Nation.

All members of the Cree Nation in all Cree communities need to be fully informed as to any developments arising from these issues.

As I write this letter, the Cree Chiefs are meeting in Montreal to address these matters, so these points being brought up here may or may not be addressed adequately to the members' satisfaction.

In any case, I wish to comment on some of the points raised in the May 5, 1999, letter from five Cree Chiefs to Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come, which you have

continued on page 17

From the Chief and Council
of the Cree Nation of Mistissini

This is to wish the whole
Cree Nation a

Happy
National
Aboriginal Day!

From the Chief and Council,
staff and members of
the Cree Nation of Mistissini

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H-Q KNEW GRID WAS VULNERABLE TO STORM

Hydro-Quebec knew as early as 1980 that its power grid had ultra-fragile components that snapped too easily in a storm, according to a document obtained by *The Nation*.

The brittle components were later to crack in droves in the 1998 ice storm, causing numerous Hydro-Quebec high-voltage transmission towers to collapse prematurely.

The failure of the towers caused the worst recorded disaster in Canada's history, which claimed 30 lives and cost $3 billion.

Hydro's engineers knew almost 20 years ago their power network was vulnerable. In the summer of 1980, two of the utility's senior engineers flew to Paris to deliver a paper at the prestigious International Conference on Large High-Voltage Electric Systems.

The two engineers, Denis Lecomte and Paul Meyere - both of whom eventually rose to the position of chief transmission line engineer - reported serious problems with a few of the thousands of components that make up Hydro-Quebec's power grid, namely porcelain insulators and U-bolts.

These little parts are crucial to the stability of the power system. If just one insulator on a transmission tower breaks, a power line several kilometres long can be short-circuited. A single cracked insulator can also cause a 730,000-volt tower to collapse, dragging down other towers with it; a 730,000-volt tower has 210 to 800-plus insulators.

Lecomte and Meyere told the conference the components used by Hydro-Quebec were defective. The insulators constantly had to be replaced and were "subject to rapid aging," said the two men.

As for the U-bolts, they "showed brittleness problems" and couldn't withstand strong winds. Already, the Hydro-Quebec engineers said, a ruptured U-bolt had caused two 730,000-volt transmission towers to collapse.

Since 1980, there is little evidence the warnings were heeded. When the ice storm hit last year, the parts were still in place.

"These aren't anomalies that could jeopardize the system," said Jean-Claude Lefebvre, spokesman for Hydro-Quebec.

"It's a problem of premature breaks. You just have to replace (the parts) more often."

The Nicolet commission, created to investigate the ice storm, said Hydro-Quebec's lines fell down long before they had accumulated the maximum amount of ice they were designed to carry. In many cases, the inquiry blamed the collapsed lines on small components like the porcelain insulators.

Lefebvre said Hydro spent $6 million replacing the porcelain insulators since 1980. But he said Hydro replaced them with the same type of extra-fragile insulator. Lefebvre also denied that any towers had ever fallen due to the easily broken parts.

In other utility news, Hydro-Quebec refused our access-to-information request for maintenance and inspection reports for the power network in the areas affected by the ice storm. The utility said some of the data was erased from its databanks. The Nicolet inquiry also complained of being refused the same information.

But Lefebvre said a mistake was made. He flatly denied that the Nicolet commission ever asked for the maintenance reports.

And he said the data wasn't erased after all. We've filed another access request for the information.

by Alex Roslin

Chisasibi has extra hour to evacuate

Chisasibi residents have 3 hours and 10 minutes to evacuate if the Robert Bourassa (LG-2) Reservoir busts open, according to newly released Hydro-Quebec documents.

The community of 3,500 has about an hour more than we previously reported.

In Aug. 1997, *The Nation* reported that Chisasibi would be flooded after only 2 hours and 14 minutes.

This information came from a 1989 Hydro-Quebec map that was released to *The Nation* after an access-to-information request.

The map also seems to suggest that the only road out of town would be cut off after 1 hour and 55 minutes.

But a 1989 disaster study for LG-2 recently released to *The Nation* shows Chisasibi has a little more time than the map seems to suggest.

The study doesn't give details on a breach at the main LG-2 dam, but rather at some of the huge dikes holding back the 2,835-square-kilometre Robert Bourassa Reservoir.

One simulation illustrates a breach at the lengthy CD-05 dike, which is adjacent to the LG-2 dam on the dam's southwest side.

If CD-05 busts, an initial front of water would arrive at Chisasibi after 2 hours and 14 minutes, but would not be initially high enough to immediately flood the community, which is home to the regional Cree hospital.

Chisasibi, which is 50 feet above sea level, would remain dry for another 56 minutes.

The study doesn't specify when the road out of town would be cut off by the torrent of water.

Water levels at Chisasibi would reach their maximum about 8 hours after the catastrophe. After 8 hours, Chisasibi would be left under 9 metres (29.5 feet) of water.

The study suggests it would take several days before the water recedes from the area of the community, but exactly how long isn't made clear.

The study is entitled La Grande 2 Reservoir, Rupture of the Dikes CD-05, CD-07, CD-09, CH-20 and CH-21.

-A.R.

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this June 21.

Nemaska Motel and Restaurant

The staff of the Nemaska Motel and Restaurant wishes a

Happy National Aboriginal Day

to the people of Nemaska and all its friends throughout the Cree Nation.

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Charly Washipabano drafted into QMJHL

Charly Washipabano of Chisasibi got drafted third in the 10th round in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League draft on June 5 in Quebec City.

Washipabano was recruited to play for the Chicoutimi Sagueneens next season. He was approached by scouts from six QMJHL teams.

Ryan Weistche, of Waskaganish, was approached by five QMJHL teams' scouts prior to the draft, but end up not getting drafted. After the draft, the Val d'Or Foreurs expressed an interest in inviting Weistche to come to Val d'Or for their camp in August.

Charly told scouts he hasn't decided yet where he will play this season. He wants to look at other options like the American University Hockey League. He will attend the QMJHL training camp in August and will then decide where to go next season.

The Nation scores at QCNA awards

The Nation won three first-place awards and five other prizes at the annual convention of the Quebec Community Newspapers' Association.

The award banquet was held in picturesque Mont St. Gabriel, north of Montreal.

Chisasibi Elder Sally Matthew won first place for Best Feature Story for her piece called Names of Lakes, which was about the Cree names of places up the Chisasibi River.

The judge wrote: "'Story' is important and storytelling is an art form. This piece 'feels' like storytelling rather than a written piece. The storyteller takes one into her story, lets them feel the hunger, lets them taste the marten broth."

Another first-place went to *The Nation*'s 1998 Elders' Calender for Best Community Newspaper Promotion. The judge said: "Most original way to acquaint the community with Elders. A quality production I am sure everyone has hanging in their homes. An excellent project."

An anti-smoking ad won first for Best In-House Ad. "It was easy to give this ad first place," said the judge.

Other awards went to: Neil Diamond and Katerina Cizek (2nd place for Best Arts and Entertainment Story), Ernest Webb (3rd for Best Photo Essay), Xavier Kataquapit (3rd place, Best Column) and Alex Roslin (2nd place, Best News Story, and 3rd place, Best Investigative/In-Depth Reporting).

Congratulations to all the winners and also to *The Portage* magazine of Waskaganish, which was welcomed into the QCNA at the convention.

Will, el Presidente

William Nicholls, an editor of *The Nation* and vice-president of Beesum Communications, was chosen as president of the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal on June 7. The centre serves about 45,000 Native people in the Montreal vicinity.

Will had served on the centre's board since last fall and was previously on its advisory board. He will stay on as president until October. He replaces the previous president, Michèle Audette, who resigned to head up the Quebec Native Women's Association.

Will said he has "tough shoes to fill" following in Audette's footsteps. He thanked the board members for their support.

Well, blow me down

Mistissini residents got a surprise when a tornado touched down in town two weeks ago, causing havoc in the community.

The strong winds sent a large wooden garbage dumpster flying into the air, chasing two kids down a street. The out-of-control twister ripped trees out of the ground and sent a shed and 45-gallon drum flying into the air.

Some vehicles and houses were damaged, including one home that had its roof shingles ripped off.

The wind also picked up a 200-pound goose blind and tossed it into the bay.

The tornado struck all of a sudden and the sky turned black. Residents report it's not the first time a tornado has hit the area.

Chisasibi pool champs

Allan Matthew, 19, was one of four Chisasibi residents who made it to the finals of a recent Val d'Or regional pool tournament.

Matthew won second place in the tournament, winning a prize of $500. The first-place winner went on to provincial pool championships broadcast on the RDS television sports network.

The other three Chisasibi stick artists in the 16-player Val d'Or finals were: Jerry and Bruce Lameboy and Andrew Duff.

Asked how he felt on coming second, Matthew said: "Happy." Fans in Chisasibi offer the local pool players congratulations.

oops!!!

The fax number for the James Bay Cree Telephone Book in the last issue was incorrect.

The correct number is (514)278-9914

We apologize for the error.

A BOY AND HIS FISHING CAN

By Ernest Webb

I always admired the bigger and more daring kids. They were the ones perched atop the old pilings of the docks. A pop can in hand with a length of fishing line tied and wrapped around it. At the end of the line was a simple hook. Maybe there was a bead of lead for the sinker.

In the pockets of the young fishers, wrapped in plastic or wax paper, was a big wad of dough. A piece would be pinched off and rolled into a ball which would then be stuck onto the hook. Throwing styles differed; some swung the hook back and forth or others let it swing right around and let go. The ones who threw the farthest were legends. "So and so threw all the way out to such and such a place."

If you could get yourself to a piling, the better, because of the reach. But it was still okay to fish from shore. Some used sticks also to wrap the line around, but cans were the best because of their uniformity. The uniformity would allow the line to unwind from the can evenly, which would give you greater distance. Rarely though did someone use a rod and reel, maybe the odd adult. But generally it was uncool to use a rod.

The most important equipment though was what was in the pocket, a big wad of dough. Some jealously guarded the recipe to their bait. With secret proportions of the flour and whatever else went into it, the wad would be wrapped with whatever was on-hand. The guys who made good bait had lots of friends. Friends who wanted a pinch of the secret bait. The shore would be lined with kids of all ages fishing for the elusive suckers, lured to the waiting hook, baited with the secret recipe of balled-up dough. The really lucky ones caught trout. Sometimes, though, they would only bite at a certain side of the island. Whenever someone brought news of fish biting at the docks on the other side, kids would either run or bike to the other side of the island. Generally, it was a false alarm.

I'd have to blindfold you first

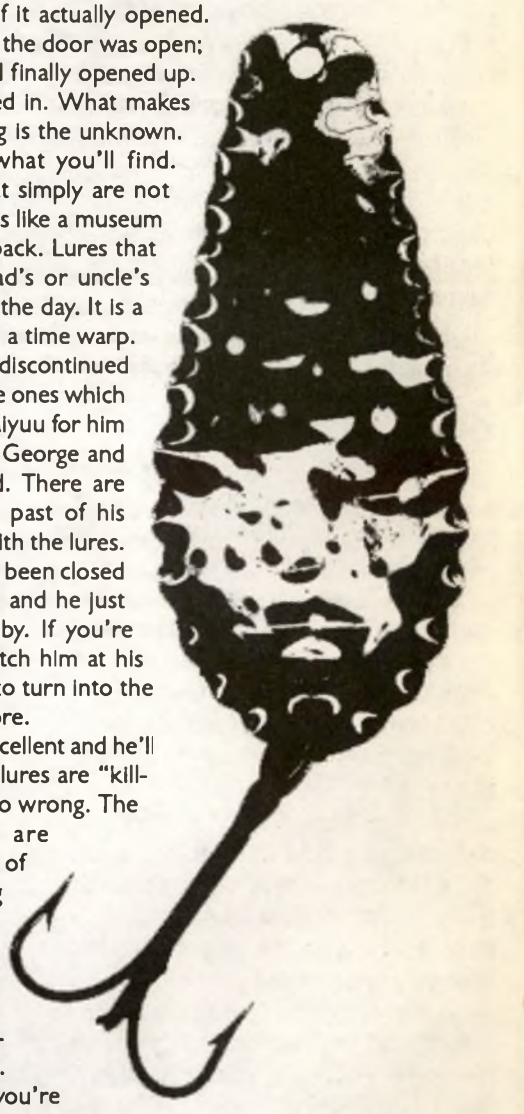
With a smile, I think back to those days as I reassemble my fishing kit after years of neglect. I laugh inside because I still carry the guarded jealousy as the kid with the wad of bait in his pocket. I have found a secret weapon in my battle of the baits. There is an old man around the corner from our office with a fishing shop. I could take you there but I'd have to blindfold you first.

I have been in Montreal for a while now, and in those years there is a shop that I, occasionally, would pass by. It even looks like it has closed down if you just pass it casually. Then, once, I stopped to take a closer look in the musty old storefront. Beyond the glass was a treasure trove of lures and other knick-knacks. I strained to look past the knick-knacks. Hanging on the walls were lures of every imaginable size and colour. I felt like a kid at a candy store. But this candy store was closed. It always seemed to be closed. From then on I would pass by the shop every couple of days to see if it actually opened. Then one day I saw the door was open; the candy store had finally opened up.

I excitedly walked in. What makes this shop fascinating is the unknown. You never know what you'll find. There are lures that simply are not made any more. It is like a museum of lures from way back. Lures that you saw in your dad's or uncle's tackle box, back in the day. It is a shop that is stuck in a time warp.

Along with the discontinued lures are homemade ones which people bring to Chaiyuu for him to sell. His name is George and he says he's retired. There are photos from years past of his catches scattered with the lures. He said his shop has been closed now for eight years and he just does this as a hobby. If you're lucky enough to catch him at his shop, be prepared to turn into the kid at the candy store.

The prices are excellent and he'll tell you that all the lures are "killers," so you can't go wrong. The homemade lures are made from a variety of materials, including brass pipes, pop cans, stainless steel, and on my last visit there was one with a toy mouse attached to the hook. I had to get it. So if you're in the area and if you're feeling lucky, and think he might be open, you can drop by the shop at 55 Bernard, one block west of St-Laurent Blvd. Or George says you can make an appointment by calling ahead at (514) 279-1370. If you're driving out of town, you could make that as a stop if you're headed up to the 15 north. Another good stop would be Baron Sports, which is a stark contrast to Chaiyuu's shop. Baron is at 8601 St-Laurent. Now if only I could get my dumplings not to taste so much like bait.



More than just a fish fry

BY WILLIAM NICHOLLS

When you talk fishing, most people don't talk recipes beyond the basics in Eeyou Istchee. By the basics I mean the shore lunches, pan-frying fish with a coating of salt, pepper and flour, or wrapping it in bacon and aluminum, and adding pepper and salt to taste, etc. Not that the basics are anything bad. I love a fresh fish fry just as much as anyone else. My first fresh meal of walleye this year was just that. I can still smell it and remember the anticipation I felt. The saliva glands were flowing that day and the taste was great.

It never hurts, though, to share a few new recipes. This time, instead of giving you a bunch of recipes, I'm going to try to help you with a whole meal from entrees and main course to desserts. These recipes will be healthy and taste great. All of them have been tried by myself and/or by the trusted taste buds of friends and relatives. I welcome your input if you have a recipe to share.

To start: Soup or Appetizer

When you start a meal you may want to start with soup or an appetizer. Will's Trout Gumbo is great and has been sampled by most of the staff at The Nation. Expressions ranged from "it was great," "I just need another taste," to "I've never had crab before." The Walleye Wraps never made it to the office but they were so good.

Trout Gumbo

3-4 slices bacon, cut up
2 medium onions, chopped
1/2-1 cup chopped celery
1/4 cup green beans (optional)
1/4- 1/2 cup sliced carrots
1 small chopped zucchini (optional)
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 can diced and spiced tomatoes 28 oz.
3-4 cups okra (optional but makes the taste out of this world!)
1/3 cup uncooked long-grain rice (a nice mixture is the wild rice and long-grain)
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
1 1/2 teaspoons instant chicken bouillon (liquid or cubes crushed)
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon dried basil leaves
1/8 teaspoon cayenne
1/3 teaspoon pepper
1 small bay leaf
2-4 pound trout fillets, cut into 1-inch pieces
1 pound crab meat (imitation o.k., optional)
1 can large size shrimp (optional, don't get the small ones as they break up)
1 quart hot water

In a large soup pot, cook bacon over medium-high heat, until crisp. Remove and set aside. Add onion, celery and garlic. Cook and stir over medium heat until vegetables are tender-crisp, about 4 minutes. Add bacon and remaining ingredients except trout, crab and shrimp. Heat to boiling. Reduce heat, cover and simmer until rice is tender, about 20 minutes. Add trout, crab and shrimp pieces to soup. Cook over medium heat, stirring gently, until fish flakes easily, about 15 minutes max.

Walleye Wraps

5 lb. walleye fillets, cut into 1 inch cubes
1 lb. of bacon strips cut in half
BBQ sauce

Wrap bacon strips around walleye cubes. Thread onto shish kebab skewers so bacon doesn't unravel. Repeat until skewers are snug and full. Cook on shish kebab rack on medium heat in barbecue; turn continually. When bacon begins to get crisp, pour barbecue sauce on wraps. Continue turning periodically until fish is white and bacon is crisp. This is a great finger food!

Main Course

Always the piece de résistance. A good cook is always appreciated by either member of the sex these days so the old saying "the way to a man's heart is through his stomach" should be expanded... so to speak. I've chosen three dishes. The beer batter is not as healthy, but with a lot of people getting into it these days I couldn't resist adding this one. Walleye is always a favourite at my household and probably many others. I find it has a good taste done with almost nothing added to it.

Fish Fillets Dijon

4 6-to 8-ounce fish fillets
4 tablespoons butter, melted (can substitute healthier margarine)
2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
1 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
6 tablespoons breadcrumbs
Chopped fresh parsley
Lemon wedges

cont'd on page 12

Cont'd from page 12

Preheat oven to 450°F. Butter 13x9x2-inch glass baking dish. Arrange fish fillets in prepared dish. Season with salt and pepper. Blend butter, Dijon mustard, lemon juice and Worcestershire sauce in small bowl. Spread butter mixture over each fillet, dividing equally and covering completely. Sprinkle breadcrumbs over each dividing equally. Bake fish until just cooked through, about 7 minutes. Sprinkle with parsley, garnish with lemon wedges.

Baked Walleye
3 pounds of walleye fillets
1 stick of butter or margarine
1/3 cup lemon juice
1/2 cup white wine (apple juice may be substituted)
1 1/2 teaspoons salt
1/2 teaspoon thyme
1/2 teaspoon black pepper
2 tablespoons chopped parsley

Pre-heat oven to 325 degrees. Dry the fillets and rub them down well with the thyme, salt and pepper. Take a glass baking dish and grease it with butter or margarine, then place the fillets in the dish. Combine the lemon juice and white wine, and pour over the fillets. Lastly, sprinkle the parsley over the fish. Cover with aluminum foil and place into the oven for 8 minutes. While this is cooking, mash the remaining butter/margarine into a creamy, half-melted texture (it helps to heat it up a little). Remove the fish from the oven. Cover the fillets with the creamed butter/margarine and place back into the oven, uncovered, for about 15 minutes, or until the fish flakes easily apart with a fork and is completely opaque throughout.

Serve with potato salad and green beans.

Beer Battered Fish
2-pound fish fillets
virgin olive oil for deep frying (for variety try peanut or sunflower)
1 Egg (or egg substitute)
1 cup beer (or substitute non-alcoholic beer or 7-Up)
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1 1/4 cup flour
1 teaspoon black pepper
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper (can substitute a 1/2 teaspoon of Tabasco sauce)

Put oil in Dutch oven or other deep heavy pot to a depth of at least 3". Set over medium-high burner or flame (i.e. propane). Cut fillets into pieces about 2"x4". In a bowl, mix egg, beer and 2 tablespoons oil together. Stir in flour and spices. Mix until batter is smooth; it should be a little runny. When oil is hot (350-360F degrees), dip fish into batter with tongs or fingers, allowing excess batter to drip back into the bowl. Gently place fish in the oil and cook until golden brown, about 5-7 minutes. Do not crowd fish; cook in batches. Drain on paper towels and serve immediately. Hints: Use dark beer for stronger flavor. Don't skimp on oil and use a large pot, not a skillet.

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Happy National Aboriginal Day

Have a Good Summer!

JUNE 21ST

In honour of National Aboriginal Day, we bring you Native-related news from around the world. Some of these items were taken from Native News, a listserv that sends free news items by email to anyone who wants to sign up. Native News can be contacted at < ishgooda@tdl.net >. Environmental News Service, another source of some items, can be reached at < http://ens.lycos.com/ >.

Oregon to Remove Two Dams

NATIVE NEWS, May 27

Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber today announced a plan to remove two dams in the Sandy River Basin, a major step in restoring natural habitat for threatened salmon and steelhead.

The removal of the dams, located 30 miles east of downtown Portland, is the result of a broad-based collaboration between Portland General Electric, the city of Portland, the state of Oregon, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and other federal and state agencies.

As part of the agreement, Governor Kitzhaber committed to a full effort to find $10 million in state, federal and private money for the habitat-restoration project. Marmot Dam on the Sandy River, Little Sandy Dam on the Little Sandy River, and the related canals and flumes will end their 90-year life as a hydroelectric project.

"For the first time in almost a century, Oregonians will see these two rivers flowing freely again. Thanks to this unique public-private collaboration, wild salmon and steelhead will return home to the Sandy River Basin," Kitzhaber said.

World Wildlife Fund investigating pollution in Arctic

NUNATSIAQ NEWS (Story by Dwane Wilkin)

IQALUIT - The World Wildlife Fund plans to lead a major study into the health effects of chemical pollution on animals in the Canadian Arctic, beginning this summer on Baffin Island and Nunavik.

The conservation group will enlist the help of Inuit to determine if reported abnormalities in certain species of wildlife can be linked to known contaminants in the Arctic food chain.

"There are a lot of abnormalities that hunters are seeing, people who are intimately involved with wildlife," said Susan Sang, a WWF investigator.

Several concerned Inuit report a number of unusual conditions among the animals they hunt, including blind caribou, hairless seals and discoloured or diseased internal organs. "We want to find out for sure if its's related to contaminants or not," Sang said.

Elders will be interviewed, while hunters and trappers will be trained to record and collect specimens from animals exhibiting gross abnormalities, Sang said.

High levels of persistent organic pollutants and heavy metals have been detected in the tissue of wildlife and people who live in the Arctic. Pesticides and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) accumulate in the fatty tissues of marine mammals, and in fish and polar bear livers. Lower concentrations of these pollutants have been found in caribou of the eastern Arctic.

Last year, scientists in Norway reported a link between PCB contamination and the strange mutation of eight polar bears on Svalbard Island, each born with male and female sex organs.

In a 1997 report, the federal government confirmed the presence of pesticides and such industrial chemicals as PCBs and heavy metals like cadmium and lead in the northern environment. Most of these contaminants originate in southern Canada and other industrialized nations, and are carried to the Arctic by wind and ocean currents.

Canada's commissioner of the environment, Brian Emmett, blasted Ottawa for failing to implement an adequate system of monitoring for the presence and effects of toxic substances on the environment.

U.S. Wildlife Officers Face Obstruction

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS SERVICE, April 7

Special agents employed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service report widespread obstruction of criminal investigations by agency managers, a new national survey conducted by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) has found.

The 120 agents responding to the survey reported political manipulation of decision-making and what PEER characterized as "broad agreement that the agency law-enforcement program is getting weaker and doing a poor job of protecting wildlife."

More than half the agents responding told of first-hand experiences of managers interfering "with an investigation in order to protect a prominent individual or powerful group."

One-third of respondents reported managers had "compromised ongoing investigations by contacting the target" to cut a deal limiting or excusing liability.

Fish and Wildlife Service special agents are federal officers charged with enforcing the Endangered Species Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and regulations covering interstate transport of wildlife.

Nuclear Waste Plan Called "Pathetic"

NATIVE NEWS (story by Matthew L. Wald), June 2, 1999

[Ed. Note: The Canadian government is consulting with First Nations on plans to import U.S. and Russian nuclear waste and bury it in the Canadian Shield.]

After spending 16 years and $489 million on a finding a way to safely store millions of gallons of highly radioactive waste, the U.S. Energy Department has abandoned the procedure because it produces explosive gases.

Department officials said they will replace the contractor, and asked outside scientists to help find another method.

Dr. Ernest Moniz, the undersecretary of energy, said experiments in the early 1980's showed the process was producing high levels of explosive benzene gas. But rather than trying to develop a new procedure, "some rather poor judgment was used" and, instead, engineers tried to make the process safe.

The General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress, said in a report, "Mismanagement by the Department of Energy and Westinghouse [the contractor] led to an extraordinary, and pathetic, waste of taxpayer money. All we have to show for $500 million is a 20-year delay, and the opportunity to risk another

Cont'd on page 14

ABORIGINAL DAY

Cont'd from page 13

$1 billion to make a problematic process work."

The plan is intended to solidify wastes left over from nuclear weapons production that will be dangerously radioactive for thousands of years. About 34 million gallons of the wastes are stored in 51 aging underground tanks at the Savannah River site, near Aiken, South Carolina.

The first stage in the plan was to concentrate the wastes so the volume would be manageable. For the second stage, mixing the radioactive material into molten glass, the department has built a $2-billion factory.

The factory works, but the process Westinghouse wanted to use to concentrate the wastes created benzene, a chemical found in gasoline that can burn or explode.

With that approach abandoned, the department may be forced to spend $2.3 to $3.5 billion more and take eight more years to develop an alternate plan.

The Energy Department has even more wastes in underground tanks at its Hanford nuclear reservation, near Richland, Washington, and these are leaking into the Columbia River.

They Moved the Whole Reserve Instead

CHRISTIAN PEACEMAKER TEAMS NETWORK (story by Doug Pritchard), June 4

"There's my father-in-law's house," said my guide, pointing to a small log cabin on an island at the edge of the rain-swept English River. "All the other families had similar houses on the river. There's where we built our community hall. There's where we kept a common herd of cows. Over there we had a common cellar for storing the produce of our gardens."

We had come by boat to visit the "old reserve" of Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishnabek (Grassy Narrows First Nation), 80 kilometres north of Kenora in Northwest Ontario. The Anishnabek had invited a Christian Peacemaker Team fact-finding mission to come and learn about the latest threat to their community posed by clear-cut logging. But this threat is set against a backdrop of several other traumas experienced by the community. The story of the old reserve is part of that backdrop.

In 1963, Indian Agent Eric Law announced it would be "better" if the Grassy Narrows people were relocated to a new reserve 5 km away on the road to the town of Kenora. He promised the people the "civilizing" benefits of government housing, electricity, water, sewage and a school staffed by white teachers. When the people resisted the move, he threatened to cut off their Family Allowance checks.

The Anishnabek families were relocated and, 20 years later, the "benefits" did eventually all arrive. But their community was almost destroyed. The new reserve was on a small, stagnant lake away from the big, wide-open river. The new houses were too close together and many lacked access to the water. The soil was too poor to support kitchen gardens. The Indian Agent assigned houses heedless of family ties and friendships. The road to Kenora lured many into trouble.

The people of Asubpeeschoseewagong still treasure their memories of the old reserve and the strength of its community. Some visit it frequently to tend gardens or memories of a better time.

Wachiya!

Robert Lamothe, T.P.
Vice President

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Congratulations to the people
of Eastmain on their new
Community Centre Complex.

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Guy St-Juien, MP
Abitibi-Baie-James-Nunavik

National Aboriginal Day **celebrates the contribution to Canadian Society of Aboriginal peoples as Canada's first people and recognizes their many cultures. I would like to wish all the Crees of James Bay a very happy Aboriginal day.**

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He is my friend

He is strong and healthy and handsome,

The most outstanding among 10 million.

His eyes our pair of diamonds,

His face, a garden of sweet smelling roses

And his hair is black as a raven.

His arms are branches of gold covered with jewels

And they were made to hold Anna

In his chest beats a heart of gold

A heart that will always be true

His legs are like marble on feet of gold

And his smile is enchanting

His voice is strong and alluring

And his laughter, a sweet melody

His pecks are sweet and charming

And his tender touches are magical

I desire him so much

He is my father and he is my friend

I'd like to take this time to wish the man in my life, my father, David Bosum Sr. a happy 57th birthday on May 3, 1999. I know I sometimes forget to say it but I'll never forget to feel it, I love you! Love always, from my heart, NB. Happy Father's Day

From the Chief and Council
of the Cree Nation of Mistissini

To all Cree fathers
of the Cree Nation

This is to wish you all a

Happy Father's Day!

On behalf of all of the
families in our community,
thank you
for all the endless
things that you've done
to keep our families
strong and happy.
Meeqwetch!

Cree Nation of Mistissini

ᒋᓭᓯᐱ Chisasibi Centre Inc.

P.O. Box 330 Chisasibi, Quebec J0M 1E0
Tel.: (819) 855-2838

The staff of
the Chisasibi Centre Inc.
would like to wish all fathers
in Chisasibi and throughout
the Cree Nation a

HAPPY
FATHER'S DAY!

The James Bay Cree Telephone Book - Connecting 25,000 James Bay Cree all year long. New! Now includes numbers from the West Coast James Bay Cree Communities in Ontario.

The James Bay Cree Telephone Book has become so well-used and popular that other Cree Communities are joining! This year, the Cree communities on the West Coast of James Bay will also be listed, allowing friends, family and businesses to stay in touch into the new millenium. The year 2000 James Bay Cree Telephone Book will ***be the only telephone directory to link the 25,000 Cree of James Bay.***

How does the James Bay Cree Telephone Book work?

- ***Like other telephone books :*** but this one is made particularly for our region.
- ***It is a useful directory :*** now linking all the Cree communities in both Ontario and Quebec.
- ***Divided into three sections :*** white pages for complete community listings, yellow pages for businesses in and around James Bay that want to advertise their products and services, and blue pages for Cree entities, and government departments wishing to make themselves accessible to the people they serve.
- ***Separated in an easy-to-find index :*** Communities are listed separately, and divided into two main groups : one for the West Coast and one for the East Coast.
- ***Everyone gets a free listing :*** All homes, businesses and entities in James Bay Cree communities (in both Quebec and Ontario) get a free listing in the white pages.
- ***The telephone books*** are then distributed free of charge to everyone in the Cree communities.
- ***It's that simple!***

We need your help in making this year's telephone book complete!
Please verify your name and telephone number in last year's book. If it was wrong, missing, or if it has changed since last year, please call Deantha Edmunds at
The Nation TOLL-FREE at : 1-877-814-9011
between 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday, or fill in the following :

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The James Bay Cree Telephone Book • Keeping us in touch into the new millenium

continued from page 6

graciously provided for the general public to comment on (see June 4 issue & News, p. 5).

First, let me comment on the subject matter in the letter, which refers to the "proposed EM-1 project/coordination of the file." This reference seems to be misleading as Hydro-Quebec's proposed potential project refers to the diversion of the Rupert River, a new project, and not the EM-1 project. The subject matter needs to be clarified for everyone to identify with and be fully informed about all interrelated issues, both from the past and the present - without confusion.

> **This is not just a business opportunity. This is the demise of our proud heritage.**

Secondly, the letter appears to be presented as a coalition of five Cree Chiefs, but without the endorsement of the Chief from Nemaska. I applaud Chief Wapachee for his stand and commitment to work within one Cree Nation, as opposed to breaking ranks for whatever reasons that may be. The letter also implies that Waskaganish lands will be flooded. From the earlier public information about the new proposed potential project - the diversion of the Rupert River - Waskaganish lands would not be flooded, but the river flow would be reduced.

Thirdly, the letter implies the Cree community of Eastmain spearheaded many discussions concerning EM-1. It seems to me the Grand Council of the Crees of Eeyou Istchee appointed Dr. Ted Moses to negotiate issues relating to the EM-1 project. The community of Eastmain then expressed clearly its position of being against the project, which forced parties to negotiate. Has the community changed its position now relating to a new project?

Fourthly, the letter refers to a mandate given by members of the affected Cree communities to fully review all information relating to the new proposed potential projects, so the community members would be fully informed prior to any position to be taken. I am aware our community of Mistissini was also instructed by our members to work with the Grand Council of the Crees on this review exercize. This was clearly a mandate to work as one Cree Nation and only to access all information, not to negotiate! Any change to the members' original instructions will be made by the members only. Each Chief was given a delegated responsibility to get all the information, then report back. Changes cannot be made unilaterally by the Cree community leadership. The members will make the final decision.

Fifthly, clearly some internal politics are being played out by certain Cree leaders and they now appear to be headhunting. Someone will be a "scapegoat" for all the wrangling that's going on. Who's meeting whom? It appears there are minutes of certain meetings between Hydro-Quebec and some Chiefs. Could one of our leaders be instructing Quebec not to meet with the CRA/GCCEI? What is being said in those private meetings? Who's saying what?

One thing is certain. No "Chief" has a mandate to negotiate on behalf of a Cree community or on behalf of the Cree Nation. Once again, the members will decide.

The Grand Council of the Crees of Eeyou Istchee was clearly mandated to oppose projects in 1989. This is a clear mandate and the resolution adopted is more than sufficient - it is the voice of the people. It is the voice of the Cree Nation! It still stands today.

"Coordination" with each community on all related matters to the new proposed projects rests on each local political leadership. How many public meetings have taken place in each Cree community to maintain a consistent dialogue on these issues?

From the letter of May 5, 1999, it appears that each Cree community seems to go along with Hydro-Quebec's policy of not requiring full Cree consent. Again, I believe we are one Cree Nation, not nine independent municipality-like organizations. No real information has been given to the Cree Nation on the real impact of the new proposed project on the Rupert River. We need to know fully the real impacts and certainly not under a pressured "window of opportunity."

Again, I stress the Cree leadership of the affected communities was asked by the members to gather information, not to negotiate. The letter appears to give the impression that the Cree Chiefs have given themselves mandates to negotiate. As a Cree member, reacting to choose between what is convenient for our community, I would readily choose to protect the deeply

continued on page 19

CONGRATULATIONS
to graduates

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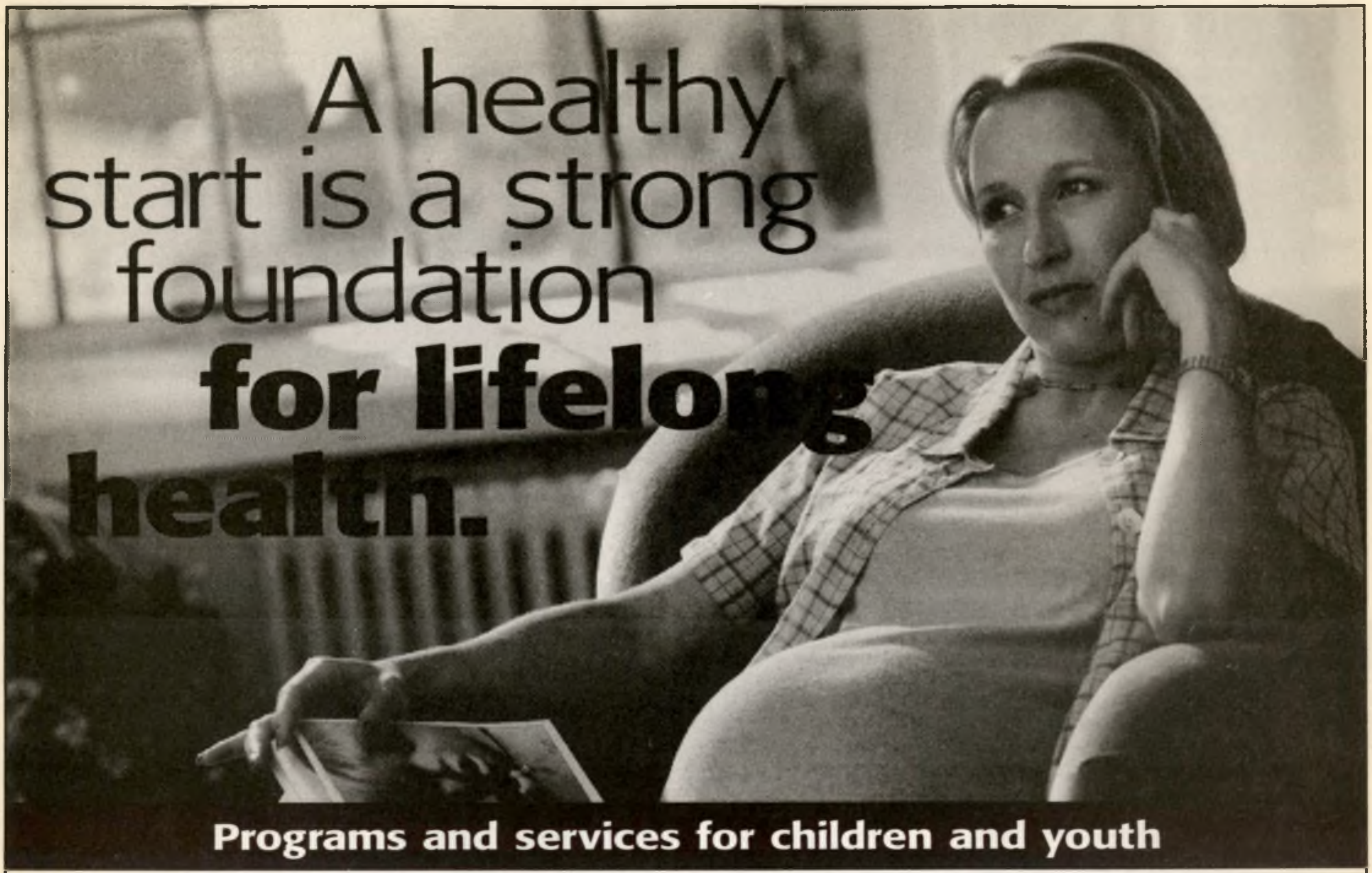
Best wishes
from the staff of Education
Services, CSB Chisasibi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Canada

continued from page 17

rooted traditional values, as opposed to seeing our Cree Nation being so torn apart as it is now.

The letter also implies that any technical information gathered must be given to the Cree communities affected and not to the CRA/GCCEI; at the same time it implies that the CRA/GCCEI will pay for all the information gathered.

Who will assure full responsibility and accountability? This seems to be a free-for-all approach. How many independent advisors will there be? What are the real costs to the Cree people in this manner? This process clearly indicates doing things the way they used to be done, and clearly is an effort to dismantle the Cree Nation. This cannot be allowed to take place as the Cree Nation's position still stands in their position of 1989.

The letter also refers to a "Tribal Council." Is this a new organization? The four Cree leadership signatories to the letter - are they now the new "Tribal Council" in place of the Grand Council of the Crees of Eeyou Istchee?

Page 5 of the letter refers to "your (the Grand Chief's) willingness to recognize our own autonomy." Is this a statement creating a split from one Cree Nation to nine different smaller municipal-type organizations? This approach would certainly fit into Quebec's past attempts to not recognize our inherent right to self-government. We are a Nation, unique in language and culture. This is our land, ouor way of life... No one or several Chiefs can effect such a drastic parting from this original vision of our people. This is not just a business opportunity - this is the demise of our proud heritage, our right to self-determination. As members of the Cree Nation, we and we alone can set the standards now and for the future.

> **The Grand Council of the Crees was clearly mandated to oppose projects in 1989.**

Lastly, for moral integrity and out of respect for the people who elected a Deputy Grand Chief now as Chief of a Cree community, by signing this particular letter in its present content it appears the Deputy Grand Chief has effectively removed herself from her role and function as a regionally elected representative of the Cree Nation. Clearly, this is a conflict-of-interest and one should do the honourable thing as a show of respect to the people.

So if, in fact, the Cree Chiefs wanted to fire the Grand Council of the Crees of Eeyou Istchee, let me say you can't! We, the members of the Cree Nation, will decide this. I believe the Grand Chief should immediately call for a special General Assembly of the Cree Nation. The approach and the seriousness of this letter and intent of the Cree Chiefs cannot be dismissed lightly.

Once again, thank you *The Nation* for your alertness to these issues and rightfully informing us.

Kenny Blacksmith
Mistissini

The staff
of Music City
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our friends in Eastmain
on the recent completion of the
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The 25th Annual General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Regional Authority shall be held :

in Whapmagoostui on
August 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6th, 1999.

All Crees are invited to attend.

This year's theme is Cree Government.

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GRAND COUNCIL OF THE CREES (EEYOU ASTCHEE)
GRAND CONSEIL DES CRIS (EEYOU ASTCHEE)

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CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY
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A LITTLE BOY WITH A BIG HEART

By Xavier Kataquapit

I am learning more of more about this world and sometimes an insight or special piece of knowledge comes to me from the least expected places. When I attended the wedding of Maurice and Darlene Lafontaine recently, I met a lot of great people and I saw first-hand the wonderful support of family, friends and community that thrives with First Nation people. It was good to be in Chapleau for the weekend with my friend Mike as we were welcomed into a large and warm family setting.

The wedding went off smoothly with a church service that was on time, full of positive messaging from father Lucien Bouillon and a full house of family and friends. The wedding party was immaculate and I can attest to the amount of time the girls spent to get ready at the hair dressing shop because I spent hours documenting it with a video camera.

Even though people were nervous and fidgety, as always, a unique form of First Nation humor permeated the entire weekend. Everybody seemed to be laughing most of the time and the one liners just kept coming. I don't like crowds a whole bunch and my buddy Mike likes them even less but this crowd was easy to be with. Everyone was so kind to each other and so respectful. I could sense a lot of history with this family in their friends and much effort into healing.

I was reminded about what that special word love stands for. During this weekend I watched as people cried, hugged, laughed and prayed together.

I can tell you I was very surprised that the biggest teaching over this weekend would come from an eleven year old boy. Let me tell you how it happened. As usual a master of ceremonies guided the evening from a microphone at the head table. Paul St. Denis did a great job of keeping things light and informal and there were speeches on remembrances from family and friends. Just when we all thought speaking at the podium had wrapped up, little Daniel Lafontaine showed up at the microphone. Daniel, who is the 11 year old son of Darlene and Maurice, stepped up to the mic, pulled a piece of paper from his coat pocket and there in the spotlight, all alone, proceeded to speak about his mom and dad. He talked about how happy he was for them that they had decided to marry and he thanked him for being good parents. At one point a tremor shook through him but he regained himself and finished off telling his parents how grateful he was to have them around and how much he loved them. He finished, turned and ran up into the arms of Maurice and Darlene.

The picture of that little boy surrounded by his mom and dad will linger in my memory for a very long time. I just wanted to thank this brave Daniel for reminding all of us, who attended the wedding, that love is the most important force in this entire world. I want thank him for being strong enough as a little boy to get out and share his deepest feelings and great emotion of love with a hall packed full of people.

Later in the evening as I was preparing to leave I shook Daniel's hand and I couldn't help but notice that are real peace had come over him. He looked secure, safe, perfectly any ease and loved. My wish tonight before I head off to sleep is that every child could feel this way. Meegwetch Daniel.

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cont'd from page 14

Use a skimmer or spatula between batches to remove burned bits of batter. Pat fish dry before dipping into the batter.

Side Dishes

Most people just don't pay enough attention to these, but they are an important part of the whole meal.

Garlic Green Beans

4 cups cut green beans
2 teaspoons margarine
2 garlic cloves
2 teaspoons chicken bouillon concentrate

Melt margarine in saucepan over medium heat. Add garlic. Sauté for one minute. Add chicken bouillon and beans. Stir, reduce heat to medium-low. Cover and cook for 3-5 minutes.

Oven roasted carrots

8 medium carrots, peeled

Place carrots in an 8" dish. Coat with margarine if no butter flavored cooking spray available. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees Fahrenheit (180 degrees Celsius) for 45-60 minutes or until tender (can be pierced by a fork). Roasting rather than boiling carrots preserves the nutrients and enhances the carrot flavor. This techniques works well for many vegetables.

Drinks

Wine and other beverages for the meal are a personal choice, but at the end of the meal a coffee of some sort is always a favourite. Though I don't drink coffee, here are a couple of easy ways to spice it up. I got these out of "Fit to Cook: Why Waist Time in the Kitchen?" This is a great book for those into healthy lifestyles. Not only do you get good food and drinks but you also get exercise tips. Toll free number to order is 1-888-678-4044.

Orange-Cinnamon Coffee

4-6 tablespoons ground coffee
2 tablespoons orange rind (the outer part) grated
1 teaspoon cinnamon
4 cups cold water

Add orange rind and cinnamon to the coffee grounds in your coffee maker.

Add water as usual. Turn machine on.

Mocha Coffee

1 portion of hot chocolate (skip if possible as it's healthier)
1/2 cup boiling water
1/2 cup strong coffee

Just toss together and stir.

Dessert

Will's homemade fruit salad

1/2 pineapple (can use two cans of pineapple unsweetened)

1/2 small watermelon, 1 cup cherries, 1 apple, 3 bananas, 3 cups green seedless grapes, 3 cups red seedless grapes, 2 peaches

1 container of Oasis unsweetened juice (preferably pineapple, or something tropical)

1 tablespoon honey, 2 tablespoons maple syrup, 2 pinches of spearmint or three leaves

Chop up all fruits into large and medium-size chunks, except for the cherries which you will halve and remove pits from. Then take the juice, honey, syrup and spearmint and blend in a blender. Pour over fruit in a large container. Makes about four quarts. Lasts three days max. It just gets better and it's great coming out of the fridge on a hot day. You'll have them coming back for more.

CONGRATULATIONS
to all the graduates

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PLACE OF WORK: **JIMMY SANDY MEMORIAL SCHOOL**
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SUPERIOR: School Principal

JOB STATUS: Regular part-time 80%

CLASSIFICATION REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS: In accordance with the regulations respecting the conditions of employment of management staff of school boards

STARTING DATE: August 9, 1999

POSTING PERIOD: **From June 1 to June 21, 1999 by 17:00**

The position of Vice-Principal entails the assistance provided to the Principal in accordance with the mandate defined by the latter in the management of one or more programs and resources of the school.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. assist the Principal in the management of the programs and resources for a given unit;
2. replace the Principal when the latter is absent for a short period of time;
3. share the responsibility with the School Principal in the implementation, monitoring and handling of the discipline policy, problems or conflict situations.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE:

- A Bachelor's degree in Education
- Have, or be eligible to receive, a permanent teaching license issued by the Minister
- Oral and written communication skills in English a necessity; knowledge of oral and written French a definite asset; knowledge of a Native language is an asset
- Proven skills in planning, organization, priority setting and decision-making
- Ability to work cooperatively, exercising tact, diplomacy and judgement
- Computer literacy is a definite asset

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS:

- A minimum of three years of work experience in an aboriginal school as a teacher, facilitator, and/or administrator
- A minimum of two years as a school administrator
- Willingness to make a long term commitment
- Respect of the orientation and of the values of the school and the community
- Courses in aboriginal education, aboriginal curriculum facilitation, and knowledge of aboriginal cultures are definite assets

If you are interested in this position, please send your curriculum vitae by June 21, 1999 by 17:00 in confidence to:

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Sillery, Québec
G1T 1P4

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CLASSIFIEDS

CATEGORY 100

Congratulations to Serena Chakapash and my Brother Jonathan Snowboy on the birth of their baby boy Tommy Peter Joseph Chakapash Snowboy. Weight 8pounds, ?Oz. Born on Apr 14, 1999. I wish you all the joy and happiness. Love Lucy Snowboy

CATEGORY 101

Wishing Sonnysh (Sonny Sam Mark) of Waskaganish a happy 7th birthday on July 8. From mom, dad, Nigel and Nat.

Belated birthday wishes to our sister Janet Hester in Chisasibi. She celebrated her birthday on May 5. We love you sis. Whenever are we going to see you? We miss you too. Love always, your only brother, five sisters in Waskaganish.

It's never too late to write a birthday greetings my beautiful, loving, caring aunt who is in Chisasibi to Rita Wash Snowboy Apr 17. I love you so much, missing you every single day. Happy 40th birthday (Joke). Love always, your niece Darla Meredith Anna (Waskaganish) PS Rita did you like my picture?

Happy 3rd birthday to my cute adorable nephew Isaiah David Diamond (Wille 2) on June 3rd. ge, step daughters Cassandra, Shannon and little Charlene. We love you so much.xxoxoxo.

Candace Jayne Moar, our one and only beautiful princess will be celebrating her seventh birthday on July 1st, Canada day. Candi, you wanted your present a little to her early this year, so we hope you won't be expecting anything on your birthday, but you'll have your cake. We'll also give you lots of hugs, kisses and of course a lot of love, because you deserve them. Happy birthday daughter and enjoy your present! Love, mom and dad.

Birthday wishes to very sweet, adorable niece Kasandrea Weena Mianscum on June 2nd. Happy 7th birthday! Love ya! Love always Aunt Lily Belle. XOXOX

Happy 7th birthday to our one in only sister Candace Jayne Moar on July 1st. We'll try not to bug you and will try to be nice to you on this, your special day. Because we want you dreamed your your day and present and we also want to wish you the best of everything. So, don't forget to give us piece of your cake if we're nice to you, OK sis. You know we love you, because we always give each other hugs and kisses. We love you very much. From your big Brother Steve & little Brother Darius.

Happy birthday to my sister Naomi Bosum on June 10th. Hope all your dreams and wishes come true on your birthday! Love always sis Lilybelle B.

Happy birthday to a sweet loving son Gabriel Blacksmith on May 29. You will be five years old, I can't believe how fast you're growing up, although you may be hyperactive, I will always love you and be there for you. Also happy birthday to my special nephew Clayton Blacksmith on May 30th. I want you know how grateful I am to have you as a nephew. Also a belated happy birthday to my baby Brother Peter Black Smith on May 5th. I wish you all the best in your lives and many more years to come. Love always Nannie blacksmith.

This birthday wish is going out to nephew Brandon Voyageur on June 29. He will be turning 4 years old. So quit your bottle already. From your aunt who loves you Karen L. Longchap.

Happy birthday to my niece Emma Laurie Melinda Longchap on June 12th. She will be turning 9 years old. Hope your day is as special as you are. Love always your aunt Karen L. Longchap.

On June 14, the most important person in my life, my little man will celebrate his second birthday. My only son Evander Gunner. Wow! Time flies so fast you're already two years old. Seems like yesterday when I first held your in my arms, I will never forget the day you were born. Your mommy will always be here for you through good and bad times. We'll always be together. I love you with every beat of my heart. You're my only son, you are my sunshine and you will be my little man forever. Love always: your mommy Edith. As you always call me [my mommy] love you so much happy 2nd birthday & many more to come.

Happy birthday to a special friend and cousin Ms. Cindy Coonishish on June 2, I want to let you know that you are wished a lot of happiness. In joy or special day and have fun on your summer holidays. Take care with love, Charlotte Petawabano.

To my little friend Jordanna Moses will be celebrating her birthday on June 7. I want to wish Jordanna a happy birthday! Have fun on your birthday. From: friend Dylanna & my baby sister Delonda Hester. Waskaganish, Que.

I would like to wish my cousin in Mistissini, his name is Brendan Coon Come, happy 9th birthday on June 14/99. Brendan, I will come and visit you this summer. Enjoy your special day, from Sebastian in Chisasibi.

Happy birthday to our brothers Adrian Erless on June 7 in Waskaganish and Paul Erless on June 20 in Eastmain. Once again happy birthday have fun but don't party! From your sisters, Florence, Tina & Rita Erless.

I love you, you love me, we're happy family with a great big hug and a kiss from me to you won't you say you love me too. I love you, you love me, we're best friends like friends should be with a great big hug and a kiss from me to you, won't you say you love me too. This song goes out to my mommy June Diamond. Happy birthday mom! On June 2. love you!

Happy birthday to my very good friend of mine Naomi R. Bosum, June 10. Hope you know how many times I miss you through the year, how many times we were apart, from eight times I remembered above the days we've shared, the memories that peoples close in heart, how loving. I think of you especially on your special day while wishing in the best of everything, and hope you know I always felt sister just like you, is one of the greatest joys that life can bring. Happy birthday my friend and good luck with Marco V. Love in friendship Lena Bosum.

I would like to wish my friend Kathy Neeposh happy birthday on June 20. I am grateful to have a friend like you. Hope you enjoy your special day. Friend always Pierrette. Chisasibi.

Belated happy birthday to my best friend in the whole wide world, Emily Happyjack on Apr 29. Hope he had a great time buddy. From your best friend: Norman Ottereyes, 10 Cedar.

A happy belated birthday to my friends, Nadia H. and Emily H. on April 29. Eleanor Gull May 3 and to Diane Moar May 8. Happy birthday you guys. Your friend, Mary Anne Gull.

Belated happy birthday to our nephews, Justin Gull on May 3, Casey Saganash on

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May 20. Happy birthday you two. We love you very much. Love always: Clara, Mary Anne & Sherley. XOXOXOX

Happy belated birthday for loving parents Gilbert on May 5 and Linda on May 19. There are no words great enough to express how grateful and blessed we are to have such wonderful parents like you. We love you both very much with love, your daughters Pamela & Melinda

Happy birthday to my friend Joni blacksmith on June 30. Hope you'll have a wonderful time on your 17th birthday & don't party too much. Your friend in Waskaganish.

105-OBITUARIES

In loving memory of Randy who left us this April. It was not the same without your smile. Hope we will see your smile again. We love you. From Charlotte, Eric and Sharon. Nemaska.

300-PERSONALS

Hello to Josh & Fawn Iserhoff. It's been awhile I didn't talk so if you have the time please give me a ring. Friend, always and forever, Jonathan God bless you my friends.

A big hello to our friends in Waswanipi, Joy kitchen,Hillory Gull,Valerie-lyn Gull, Charity Tanoush,Melissa Dixon,Meline Longchap and Rebeca Otter.We just wanted to say hi. From:your friends in Mistissini Cetianna Mapachee,Natasha Loon, Ameila Brien,Kelly Macleod & Mistisini Queen.

Happy Father's Day to our daddy "Jabou!" We send you our love and admiration. Even though we can be together on your special day, you're with us in our hearts every day. We love you daddy, you are our No. 1 dad!! From Kyana & Niichikus (Johnny) Ottereyes

I'd like to wish Ghislain a happy Father's Day. Even though we're not together always, you show that your great father in your own ways. While you know that you truly bless me with two beautiful children. Thank you for trying to make me happy when I'm down, for being there when no one else was, for loving me the way you do. You're always in my prayers, thoughts & dreams.

Beautiful Canadian girl, 19, seeks male companion. Send S.A.S.E to: box 115, 4020 St. John's Blvd, Dollard Des Ormeaux, Quebec, H9G2L6

Happy Mother's Day to our mom Daisy; we love you so much mother, because you understand so well, care so deeply, comfort so gently & share so beautifully. The most of all, we love you because you're you! Please, don't ever change, because we need you & love you so much just the way you are. From Angelina, Marcus & Joylene.xoxoxoxo.

Happy belated Mother's Day to our mothers and grandmothers, Winnie Moar from Waskaganish and Janie Kanatewat from Chisasibi. We know its late, but it's better late than never. So we hope your days were as wonderful as you are. With lots of love, hugs and kisses coming your way. From Rusty, Charlotte and grandchildren Steve, Candace and Darius. PS Googoo Moar, we miss you very much and we hope to come and visit you this summer.

Congratulations to Peter Brian Kanatewat who will be having his confirmation on June 20th. May God bless you, keep you and guide you. Love, Charlotte, Rusty, Steve, Candace & Darius.

Happy Father's Day to our loving, caring father George Ottereyes in Chisasibi. We thank you for all the things you have done for us. Even though at times we're not so good. Love, your sons Jr. Joshua, George, step daughters Cassandra, Shannon & little Charlene. We love you so much.

Happy Father's Day to my boyfriend George Ottereyes. Thank you for fathering our children. It means a whole lot to me. And I love you for it. Love, Priscilla.

Happy Father's Day to Billy Weapenicappo in Moose Factory. Have a happy Father's Day. We love you. Priscilla, George & kids.

Happy Father's Day to Willie Ottereyes in Vald'Or. Thank you dad for being there for me. Love, your oldest son George.

Happy Mother's Day to our mom Daisy: we love you so much mother, because you understand so well, care so deeply, comfort so gently, and share so beautifully. But most of all, we love you because you're you! Please, don't ever change, because we need you and love you so much just the way you are. From Angelina, Marcus & Joylene. xoxo

Happy Mother's Day to my mommy Elma Moses in Eastmain. From your toddler Princess Angela, and happy 1st Mother's Day to mommy Elma from your cuddlesome, Darling Little pudgy newborn Leah.

A Big hello to my ex boyfriend Charlie Dick in Whapmagoostui. Hi. how are you? Me, I'm bored without you. Please come back to me. I really miss you so much. Can't Wait to see your cute face again. Hope your coming to the inter-band in Mistissini. From your ex girlfriend Anne Marie M.

There`s someone in Waswanipi that I really miss sometimes. I have memories of him like when we used to have fun together. I still love him. I really want to go out with him again. Richard Ottereyes cutie. From your ex Kim Neeposh. love ya.

A very special guy to say hi to! Hello to Raymond A in Chisasibi. How is life into Chisasibi? I'm bored without you. I really miss you so much. I always wanted to have you in my arms and thinking of you always. From your secret admirers in Waswanipi. Guess us!

A few words to my Sweetie in Waswanipi Benjamin Ottereyes. Here it goes. I need you, I miss you, a high love you to much to let you go, able always be you my sweet lover (come back) love always and forever, secret admirer in Chisasibi. PS I heard that your fiance to Kim Neeposh. Anyway, I will call you collect. Bye! Ben, expect your call.

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Aanischaaukamikw
CREE CULTURAL INSTITUTE
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National
Aboriginal Day!

The Aanischaaukamikw

Wishes all Aboriginal communities within the province of Quebec and across Canada to enjoy celebrating their heritage.

Kenny Mianscum, Coordinator & Staff

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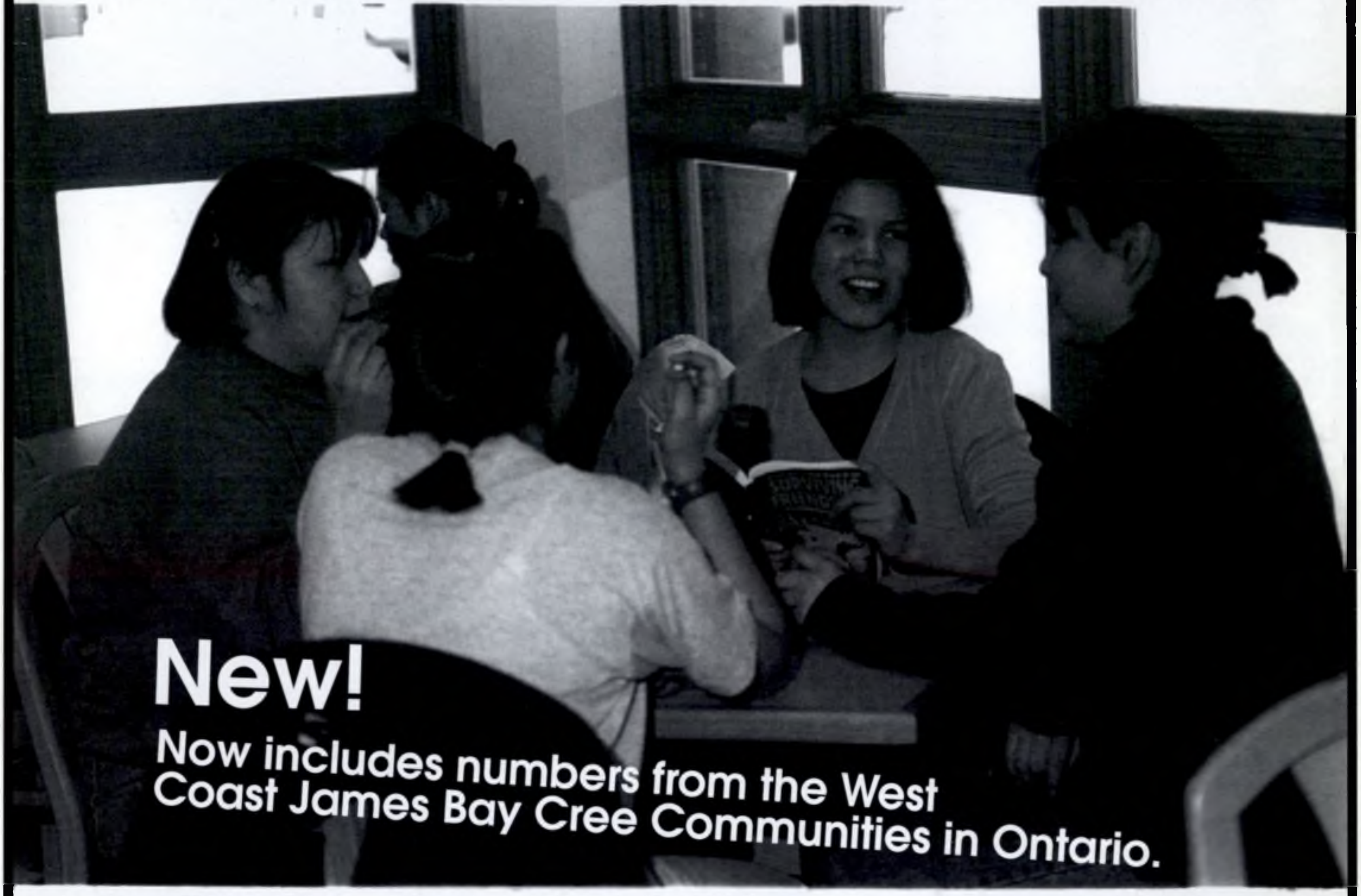

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Now includes numbers from the West Coast James Bay Cree Communities in Ontario.

The James Bay Cree Telephone Book has become so well-used and popular that other Cree Communities are joining! This year, the Cree communities on the West Coast of James Bay will also be listed, allowing friends, family and businesses to stay in touch into the new millenium. The year 2000 James Bay Cree Telephone Book will be the only telephone directory to link the 25,000 Cree of James Bay.

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